

SUC Suggests Methods to end Individual Killings and Murders

The problem of individual killings and politics of murder is so acute and so much vitiating the democratic atmosphere of West Bengal that no democratic minded person can remain indifferent to it any longer. Our Party since long has been seriously trying on its own to bring an end to this problem and restore the democratic atmosphere and persuading all other left and democratic parties to actively endeavour to rid this State of this crippling situation created by an increasing spate of individual killings and politics of murder.

On 6th July last, Com. Nihar Mukherjee, the Secretary of the West Bengal State Committee of the S.U.C.I. addressed a letter to the Secretary of different political parties in West Bengal which contained our views and specific proposals to fight this menace at different levels and also this letter was circulated at the All Party Conference held on the following day at the instance of Sri Sidhartha Sankar Roy, the Union Minister. Since some parties which were not represented in the last dissolved State Assembly were uninvited in the Conference our Party raised the point that as this problem is the concern of all the political parties, no matter whether it had representation in the last Assembly or not, they should all be invited and this was accepted. The letter containing our suggestions runs as follows :

Dated July 6th, 1971.

Dear friend,

We are sure that you, like us, view with grave concern the problem of individual killings and murders that has engulfed West Bengal today. It is an undeniable fact that during the period of administration of the last Congress controlled Coalition Ministry the problem further deteriorated, notwithstanding the assurance given by the Govt. to stop such killings and murders. In fact, it has assumed alarming proportions so much so that the safety and security of ordinary citizens, particularly of political workers, are in grave danger.

It is our considered view that the problem of individual killings and murders is the inevitable outcome of a particular type of politics which encourages philosophical intolerance, blindness and party fanaticism amongst the ranks and attempts to expand the sphere of party influence by physical annihilation of the workers and supporters of opponent political parties in place of conducting ideological struggles and winning over the masses on to its side.

In the greater interest of

the people and the development of democratic mass movements, the problem must be tackled in all seriousness and sincerity in which the political parties, the Govt. and the people each have a role. We suggest that the following norms, code of conduct and measures should be adopted for the purpose of putting an end to individual killings and murders.

For Political Parties :

1) Every political party must have the right to propagate its views and criticise those of other political parties openly without any fear of threat, intimidation or physical violence. But in conducting this ideological struggle there should not be slander, unjust personal attack, deliberate distortion of the political stands of opponent political parties or any encouragement to violent clash.

2) No party organisation should disturb, obstruct or attack any public meeting, demonstration, propaganda squad or squad for sale of literature organised by any other party even if different political views are expressed therein.

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D.Y.O. CONVENTION

(By a Staff Reporter)

The Democratic Youth Organisation (D. Y. O.) West Bengal branch, held a State Convention on Bangla Desh at Calcutta on 10th and 11th July last.

On 10th July the delegate sessions adopted among others resolutions on the freedom struggle in Bangla Desh, the problem of individual killings and murders in West Bengal, the issue of mass copying in different examinations under the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education and different Universities in the State, dissolution of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and imposition of President's Rule in the State, necessity of carrying on movement against obscene literature, cinema posters and cinemas and a resolution condemning the recent supply of arms by U.S. rulers to the Pak military junta. 488 delegates from the districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, Purulia, Murshidabad, Bankura, Birbhum, Hoogly, Howrah, 24-Parganas, Midnapore and Calcutta attended the sessions. On 11th July at the open session presided over by Sri Dwijendra Lal Sengupta M.P., Com. Shibdas Ghosh, leader, teacher and the General Secretary of the S. U. C. I. delivered an illuminating speech on the Bangla Desh question wherein he also discussed the weaknesses of the democratic movement in our country and the essential necessity of imbuing the youths of India with pro-

letarian morality which alone can fight out the menaces of moral depravity, selfishness, social indifference, lack of sense of social responsibility and aimless desperateness, now raising their ugly heads in the socio-political life of our country. He pointed out that greater the influence of the so-called big left parties like the C.P.I. (M) the more intense these bad trends are appearing in all their nakedness, expressing thereby anti-working class character of these parties.

D.S.O. MEETING IN ORISSA

(By a Staff Reporter)

On 14th and 20th June last, a meeting was held at Judgepur Road in Cuttack district in Orissa, where student workers from various districts of Orissa organised under Democratic Students Organisation (D. S. O.) attended and participated in the discussions on various vital issues which are confronting the life of the student community at present. At the meeting a decision was taken to launch an agitational movement at the state level at the end of this year and also to organise a demonstration in the state capital for the fulfilment of various legitimate democratic demands of the students. Com. Probhas Ghosh and Com. Tapas Dutta were present at the meeting.

SOVIET STAND ON BANGLA DESH

The Communist Party of India has tried to make out a case that "only in Moscow, the first halt of the External Affairs Minister, has any proper understanding of the real issue of Bangla Desh been discernible." Had it been so, we would have been very happy. But unfortunately, the fact is otherwise; the Soviet stand with regard to Bangla Desh is not fundamentally different from the stands of other countries where Government of India have sent Central Ministers on Bangla Desh mission.

Let us examine the Bangla Desh issue. It is an undeniable fact that the people of Bangla Desh have been conducting a freedom struggle for achieving national independence against the Pak military regime. Has the U. S. S. R. recognised the movement in Bangla Desh as a freedom struggle? The answer to the question is in the negative. There can be political settlement of the Bangla Desh question only on the fulfilment of the following terms, namely (i) unconditional release of Seikh Mujibur Rahman (ii) withdrawal of the Pak military forces from Bangla Desh (iii) recognition of the Sovereign Republic of Bangla Desh and (iv) compensation for the losses suffered by the Bangla Desh people as a result of Pak attacks on them. These conditions have been laid down by the Acting President of Bangla Desh for political settlement. In all these matters the Soviet stand hardly differs from the stands of other countries.

We have before us three documents on the Bangla Desh question—(i) the communication by Nikolai Podgorny, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U. S. S. R. to President Yahya Khan (ii) the joint communique issued after External Affairs Minister, SwaranSihgh's visit to Moscow and (iii) Soviet Premier Kosygin's address to his electors in Moscow. In none of these documents the Soviet Union has characterised the

movement in Bangla Desh as a freedom struggle; none of these documents gives any hint of Soviet Union's intention to recognise the Sovereign Republic of Bangla Desh. Rather, all the documents view political settlement of the Bangla Desh question peacefully within the framework of Pakistan, which negates the demand for independent Bangla Desh.

Podgorny's letter speaks of 'peaceful political settlement' of the 'complex problems that have arisen in Pakistan.' It further states that 'this would meet the interests of the life of the people of Pakistan and the interests of preserving peace in that area'.

The joint communique in the penultimate paragraph states 'the two sides..... consider it imperative for immediate measures to be taken in East Pakistan which would ensure the stoppage of the influx of refugees from East Pakistan. Simultaneously it is desirable to take further steps to ensure that peace is restored and all conditions of security are created for the return of the refugees to their homes in East Pakistan.' In his electoral speech to the electors Kosygin said 'all those who treasure the principles of humanism must demand the creation of conditions for the return of the refugees to their homes, the granting of personal safety and possibility to live calmly in East Pakistan. We hold that such measures should

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By The Way

According to a report published in Link dated 27.6.71., the percentage increase in crime in 1967 over the previous five years is as follows: murder 13.5 per cent; kidnapping and abduction 8.1 per cent; dacoity 26.3 per cent; robbery 27.4 per cent; house-breaking 21 per cent; cattle theft 13.6 per cent; ordinary theft 28 per cent; riots 34.7 per cent; criminal breach of trust 18.1 per cent; cheating 18 per cent; counter-feiting 233 per cent and miscellaneous 13.3 per cent. Cognisable offence punishable under Indian Penal code in the whole country that year is 8,81,981—an increase of 11% over the previous years. Much to the discomfort of the ruling Congress Party—the representative of the Indian monopoly capitalist, one cannot fail to notice that as the Government is spending more and more amount of public money on its police force on the plea of maintaining law and order so also is increasing the crime figures of every type. Apart from the fact that there has been a vastly increased strength of Police force in every State in our country since independence the Central Government also has raised its own Police force, namely, C. R. P. from one battalion in 1939 to 52 duty battalions and 3 signal battalions, seven battalions of the Central Industrial security force in a single year in 1969, besides other forces like Border Security Force, Assam Rifles which are all mobilised in active policing duty. The only rationale of yearly increasing the might of all the wings of the Police force, both Central as well as the State, is not so much to curb the criminal activities but to suppress all legitimate democratic mass movements of the toiling people against the vested class whose interests are being faithfully represented by the ruling Congress (R).

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In U. S. A. drug addiction and crimes have surpassed all previous records and the problem is so acute that even the U. S. rulers whose anti-people policies are responsible for breeding these crimes cannot ignore it any longer. The US will be spending about 105 million dollars, out of the special Congressional grant of 155 million dollars (Rupees 116 crores) towards the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts in the country as a matter of national emergency. A 'paradise' indeed for the capitalist-robbers!

* * * *

Just after the dissolution of West Bengal State Assembly, the C. P. M. have initiated a move to combine all the "democratic anti-Congress forces" in a joint struggle against the Centre. The C. P. M. leader Mr. Promode Dasgupta, has expressed his hope that some parties of the U. L. D. F. like the C. P. I., the Forward Bloc and the S. U. C. would join with the parties in the U. L. F. in this common democratic mass movements. He has further noted that "a broad based unity on the type of the United Front would be established eventually among these Parties as a result of the common struggle." One should not embarrass the C. P. M. leader Mr. Promode Dasgupta by asking him to throw some additional light on his famous theory of 'class-based front' according to which the above parties of the U. L. D. F. are anti-people, anti-democratic and stooges of the Congress (R).

Resolutions of West Bengal State

Committee of SUCI

The West Bengal State Committee of the S.U.C.I. met at Calcutta on 3rd and 4th July last and discussed the situation in the State following the dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly and imposition of the President's Rule, the problem of individual killings and murders, the situation in the district of Birbhum and the question of achieving unity of different left and democratic parties and developing united democratic mass movements against vested interests and reaction in West Bengal.

The State Committee in a resolution condemned the dissolution of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly as flagrant violation of all democratic norms. It viewed the appointment of a Central Minister for 'superintendence, control and direction' of the day-to-day administration in the State as an unprecedented attempt to nakedly use the administration in the interest of the Congress (R) Party. The President's Rule is most undemocratic and, as such, it cannot be allowed to continue for long. The State Committee, therefore, has demanded early election in West Bengal. To ensure relatively free and fair election so often assured by the Government, individual killings and murders should be stopped, normalcy restored, condition for developing democratic movements brought back, warrants of arrest against persons for participation in democratic movements as also false cases against political, trade union and peasant workers and ordinary people withdrawn, persons detained without trial and arrested in connection with democratic movements released and genuine voters' names included in and false voters' names excluded from the electoral rolls before the election. This is the opinion of the Committee.

The Committee viewed with grave concern the problem of

individual killings and murders in West Bengal. During the period of administration of the last Congress (R)-controlled Coalition Ministry, the situation further deteriorated, notwithstanding the assurance given by this Government to stop such killings and murders. In the considered view of the State Committee this problem is the inevitable outcome of a particular type of politics which encourages blindness, party fanaticism, philosophical intolerance and attempts to expand party influence through physical annihilation of the workers and supporters of the opponent political parties in place of conducting ideological struggles and winning over the people. It is an undeniable fact that in the interest of developing democratic movements the problem must be effectively tackled in which the political parties, the Government and the people have each a role. The political parties, if they want to stop the individual killings and murders, must adopt correct norm and code of conduct, snap all ties with anti-social elements and stop conniving with the police and the anti-social elements in perpetrating murderous acts against their political opponents. The Government also, if it is sincere to put an end to the present situation, must by all means break the chain of the police with the anti-

social elements, powerful business houses and joteders, purge the administration particularly police of partisan anti-people elements and restore administrative neutrality. Now the people are unarmed and completely at the mercy of the armed hooligans, who have no difficulty in getting arms by means fair and foul. The people can only resist the armed hooligans if they are properly armed and organised. The State Committee, therefore, demanded that the Arms Act should be repealed, small and conventional arms brought under the purchasing power of the people and opportunity be given to them to arm themselves and resist the armed hooligans. The State Committee has prepared a note in this respect which will be circulated to other parties.

In another resolution the State Committee expressed strong resentment at the way the administration, particularly the police, has been behaving in the district of Birbhum. A reign of terror has been created there by the Naxalites, anti-social elements and workers of some other parties garbed as Naxalites. These miscreants are moving about in gangs with fire arms openly in broad day light and committing murders, dacoities and other criminal acts. At the hands of these criminals some of the workers and supporters of the S.U.C.I. have lost their lives. Whereas the administration often blames the public for not coming forward to resist individual killings and other criminal activities and help the police in apprehending the miscreants, the reality is that though members of the public have been giving the information about the movements of these armed criminals and coming forward to co-operate with the authorities in preventing individual killings and other criminal activities, the police is not only not appre-

hending the miscreants but, on the contrary, divulging the information to the miscreants themselves and arresting innocent persons, specially the workers and supporters of the S.U.C.I., falsely implicating them in the cases of murders, dacoity etc. committed by the miscreants themselves. The Committee, therefore, demanded a thorough probe by an impartial body into the working of the police in the district of Birbhum, punishment of the guilty police officials, stoppage of harassment and arrest of innocent persons and S.U.C.I. workers and supporters, release of such persons, workers and supporters arrested on false charges and strong action against miscreants.

In the fourth resolution the State Committee felt the essential necessity of forging unity among the different left and democratic parties in order to meet the increasing offensive launched by the Government, the Congress (R) and such other reactionary parties against democratic movements. The breakdown of the last U.F. in West Bengal has provided the vested interest and reaction with opportunities to mount these attacks. The State Committee expressed its satisfaction at the attempts made by the Secretariat to re-establish unity of left and democratic parties and develop united democratic movements. The C. P. I. (M), though belatedly has abandoned its incorrect slogan of so-called "class-based Front", felt the necessity of forming a democratic Front and recognised that both the C. P. I. and the Forward Bloc (whom the C. P. I. (M) till the other day branded as anti-people Congress stooges) have still role in the democratic movements. The State Committee in the resolution welcomed this shift in the C. P. M's stand. But it felt that unity of the

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On The Question of Autonomy of Different States in Indian Union

The question of autonomy of different States within Indian Union is drawing the attention of the people for sometime. Since independence Congress was in power both at the Centre as well as in the States for an uninterrupted period of twenty years, with exception in one or two States. But after the general election in 1967, this pattern underwent changes. Whilst Congress remained in power at the Centre there were anti-Congress Governments in majority of the States. From then on the various State Governments were demanding more autonomous rights since most of the power is concentrated in the Centre as per the Indian Constitution.

Moreover the Centre is gradually curtailing and encroaching even on the exclusive rights of the States. For example the law and order is exclusively an affair of the State Government; but the Centre has already encroached on this jurisdiction of the State Government by creation of C.R.P., C.I.S.F., R.P.F. etc. On the question of finance also, the Centre has the sole right to collect most of the taxes from the States, but the State can get only nominal fraction of the total collection at the discretion of the Centre. The Centre often imposes strings and uses this financial power to put political pressure on the States. If a Government in a State desires to set up a particular industry it cannot do so unless it gets green signal from the Centre. On the question of procurement and sale of foodgrains also the State Government is absolutely powerless in fixing the price because of the Essential Commodities Act. During the first U. F. Government in 1967, Comrade Subodh Banerjee, the then Labour Minister, wanted to enact certain progressive labour laws but as the subject was in the concurrent list, the Centre rejected these labour bills. Thus these bills could not be enacted into laws because of the undue intervention of the Centre. These are not exhaustive but only a few illustrative examples to bring

home to the readers how the Centre has curtailed the power of the States. These are, indeed, great impediments in the independent functioning of a State Government and has virtually made the States crippled. Such encroachments on the rights of the States by the Centre has strengthened the case for more autonomy. There is no doubt that this constitution needs amendment and the States should have more autonomy in the matter of mobilisation of resources, legislation and other economic activities. Recently the D.M.K. Government of Tamil Nadu appointed the Rajamannar Commission which submitted its findings to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Without going into the merits of recommendations of Rajamannar Commission, it can be said that the question of Centre—State relation as well as the autonomy of the different States within Indian Union must be reviewed and the Indian Constitution has got to be suitably changed to ensure greater autonomy to the States and a basis is to be evolved for a fair and impartial redistribution of the Central Fund.

R. K. B.

But the way the demand for autonomy as being put forward by the leaders of different political parties, is beset with dangerous consequences. The

tone of D. M. K. of Tamil Nadu and the Akali Dal of Punjab bears the indelible mark of localism. But curiously the tone of C.P.M. is also no different from that of D.M.K. or Akali Dal. In stressing the demand for autonomy, the D.M.K. and Akali Dal are citing the example of Bangla Desh and the leaders of C.P.M. also are threatening the very likelihood of "Bangla Desh being repeated in India" on this question. Such comparison with Bangla Desh without explaining the difference between the struggle of the different States of India for more autonomy and that of the people of Bangla Desh for full independence is extremely harmful. In our country an all India psychological make up has grown up through anti-imperialist struggle, but one all Pakistan psychological make up is absent and a distinct Bangla Desh nationalism in place of one Pakistan nationalism has emerged through the struggle of the people of Bangla Desh against the ruthless exploitation of West Pakistan colonialists. Hence the struggle of the people of Bangla Desh for full independence is just and all the freedom loving people must extend full support to this just struggle of the people of Bangla Desh for sovereignty and independence. But the question of extending autonomy of the States within Indian Union is somewhat different. In a multi-nationality State like India, the people are not only economically exploited but they suffer nationality oppression also. The people of the oppressed nationality resent against this exploitation of the dominating nationality. Again in spite of the fact that a fascist tendency of growing monopolisation of

Indian economy is rapidly developing yet in an under-developed country like India the role of small capital is not insignificant and is acting as a brake in this tendency towards monopolisation. As such the various local parties, representing the local bourgeoisie grow up and try to serve the interest of the local bourgeoisie. The local bourgeoisie make a common cause with the people in their fight against the bourgeoisie of the dominating nationality; but whereas the people fight for freedom against exploitation these local bourgeoisie never desire the end of capitalist exploitation. Whilst the resentment of the people against nationality oppression is genuine, the bourgeoisie of the oppressed nationality, on the other hand, take up this issue to gain major concession from the bourgeoisie of the dominating nationality. With this ulterior motive in view they fan up local sentiments and usurp the sentiment of the people against exploitation and channelise the hatred of the people against all sections of people of the dominating nationality including the working class. But the attitude of a working class party to all such question is basically different. Whilst a parochial party representing the interest of the local bourgeoisie wants the right of unhindered exploitation of the people by the local bourgeoisie, the working class party demands freedom from all sorts of exploitation. A left party also takes up local issues and builds up movements on those issues but a strict proletarian class angularity is reflected in such movements. These movements must not disturb the all national united democratic

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Opportunism of CPI(M)

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movement and the main task of the overthrow of the oppressive capitalist system must not be lost sight of. As such these movements are to be built up in such a way so that it is conducive to the growth and development of left democratic and revolutionary movement in our country. Hence the demand for autonomy put forward by a working class party must not disturb the unity of the Indian people. In fighting for autonomy, unity of the working class even of the dominating nationality is to be forged and extreme caution must be exercised to guard against the growth of forces of extreme right reaction like Shiv Sena, B. N. V. P., Lachit Sena, Tamil Sena etc. etc. It must be borne in mind that the bourgeoisie want to keep the people disunited with the ulterior motive of keeping their class rule. Hence the working class party must strive for maintaining the unity of the people, which is essential for the overthrow of the oppressive capitalist system.

If judged from this angularity, the behaviour of C. P. M. may seem odd. Though C. P. M. claims it to be working class party, it has thrown into the wind all these principles. Thus Promode Babu tries to fan up parochial sentiment by such utterances that West Bengal is a colony of the Centre and this he does with a view to take maximum advantage in election. It is one thing to develop united democratic movement against Centre for the fulfilment of the just demands of West Bengal and it is quite a different thing to fan up local sentiment for winning election on this question. To one who is well acquainted with the politics of C.P.M. it is nothing peculiar. In the past it was seen that C.P.M. shook of all principles and took to exigency with the

sole motive of expansion of the Party by hook or by crook. It was seen that C.P.M. roused Assamese sentiment in Assam and Bengali sentiment in West Bengal from a narrow pragmatic consideration. In Tamil Nadu and Punjab C. P. M. supports the parochial demand of D.M.K. and Akali Dal since it fears isolation and extinction if it goes against the current of the local sentiment. Incidentally it may be mentioned that C.P.M. in its excessive zeal to be on the bandwagon of these parochial parties, does not hesitate to brand these parties as progressive and when it becomes impossible to make unity with these parties, C.P.M. cries hoarse about the reactionary character of these parties. This very political exigency is promoting C.P.M. to rouse local and parochial sentiments even if this vitiates the whole political atmosphere of the country and strikes at the root of the unity of the Indian people. This is indeed a serious danger. As such the rank and file of C.P.M. must be on their guard to restrain the leaders of C.P.M. from pursuing such suicidal policy of disrupting the unity of the Indian people which is so essential for the success of Indian revolution.

C. F. R. I. Employees Association in Dhanbad Formed

The employees of Central Fuel Research Institution (C. F. R. I.) Digwadih, Dhanbad has for the first time organised a strong progressive Trade Union and elected an Executive Committee with Com. Amal Dutta as General Secretary. The new union has launched campaign on their charter of demands.

BIHAR NEWS

(By a Staff Reporter)

S U C meeting at Tatisilwai, Ranchi

A mass meeting of the peasants and workers coming from different villages was held at Tatisilwai near Ranchi on 28th June last under the joint auspices of the S. U. C. and the Kisan Mazdoor Sangha. Com. Pritish Chanda, a S.U.C leader, in his main speech at the meeting, specifically dealt on the problems of unemployment, land problems of Adivasi Kisan and the oppression suffered by the toiling people at the hands of the rural vested class and the administrative authority and emphasised that these are but the outcome of the present oppressive capitalist regime in the country. He urged upon the peasants, the youths and the workers to rally round the revolutionary banner of the S.U.C. and wage struggle for emancipation from such capitalist system. The meeting was presided over by Com. Prakash Naik and Com. Mantu Roy, Com. S. Khon, Com. Krishna Hazam and Com. Lakshmi Pandey were among the other speakers and all of them raised the demand for job opportunities for the local people at the newly established factories nearby.

New Trade Union Organised in Ranchi

The workers of Bihar Electric Equipment Projects (a Bihar Government undertaking), Usha Martin Factory, Waxpol, all of Tatisilwai, Ranchi have organised a new Trade Union named Tatisilwai Engineering Workers Union, Ranchi which is sought to be affiliated with U. T. U. C. (Lenin Sarani).

Ranchi D.S.O. Formed

The students of Ranchi have organised D. S. O. and formed its Organising Committee. In a meeting attended by students of Ranchi University post graduate class, Law College, Medical College and

St. Xavier's College held on 28th June at Ranchi, Com. Chaya Mukherjee, the D.S.O. leader spoke at length on the objects of D.S.O., the present educational and other problems confronting the student community and also on Bangla Desh issue and the need for Youth Volunteer Brigade in support of Mukti Fouz. She also stressed upon the extreme urgency to build up and strengthen D. S. O. as the only progressive fighting organisation of students in the country.

Colliery Workers Achieve Great Victory

The workers of the East Indian Coal Co. Ltd. (of Jardines Henderson), Jealgora, Dhanbad have achieved an unique victory under the banner of the S. U. C.-led Bihar Coal Miners Union (U. T. U. C., Lenin Sarani). The workers of the Engineering Department of Jealgora and Bararee group of collieries went on strike on June '70 on the demand of extra wages for working on Sundays, the weekly day of rest. The management agreed to refer the dispute for arbitration under Industrial Disputes Act. The Presidency Officer of the Central Government Industrial Tribunal Dhanbad II as Arbitrator awarded on 3rd April 1971 and upheld that the workers' demand for extra wage for work on the day of rest was justified. Thereupon the management moved a petition before Patna High Court for modification of the Award. The workers resented this attempt of the management and threatened strike on the demand for immediate implementation of the Award. The dispute was ultimately settled on 29th June last and the management agreed to meet the demands of the workers. A huge procession and mass meeting was organised on 4th July last, celebrating the victory of the workers.

Kerala D S O Wins A Major Victory

(By a Staff Reporter)

The Kerala State Organising Committee of All India Democratic Students' Organisation (D. S. O) had conducted a movement for the last two weeks against the undemocratic and unfair attitude of the Headmaster of Kughimaticand Government High School, situated near Quilon and some of its teaching staff and also against the high-handedness of the local Police authority for suppressing the student movement.

The Headmaster of the School along with a section of the teaching staff openly flouted all democratic principles and sided with the Congress (R)-led student body, the KSU, for enabling it to win the school union election through undemocratic means. The local unit of the D. S. O. organised a movement, in which some other student organisations also participated, against this unjust election conducted by the school authority. On 16th June last, while the students were peacefully picketing in front of the school, the Congress (R)-controlled goondas attacked the students. The police

which were standing by near the school, without taking any action against the unprovoked attack of the Congress (R)-led goondas, arrested, on the other hand, Com. C. K. Lukose, the Secretary of Kerala State Organising Committee of D. S. O., who was there for some conciliation. This action of the Police instantaneously infuriated the squatting students who demanded immediate release of Com. C. K. Lukose and the Police S. I. was ultimately forced to submit to their demands by releasing Com. C. K. Lukose. Later on following a gherao of the Headmaster of the school, the Headmaster had conceded to all their demands.

Veiled Threat Of Congress(R)

As usual, even on Bangla Desh issue, the leaders of the Congress (R), the representative of Indian big business and other vested interests, have not failed to hold out veiled threats to the working class and the other toiling masses, to suppress their hard-earned democratic rights and oppress them more ruthlessly. The Union Labour and Rehabilitation Minister, Mr. Khadilkar, had just on the other day asked the workers to see "that there was no hold-up of industrial production and strike at least during this period of crisis" and said that "any action to hold up production in this critical time was an action against national interest". It seems that the Congress (R) which still refuses to recognise the Sovereign Democratic Republic of Bangla Desh, being cynically indifferent to the demands of the broad sections of the Indian people to do so, and is giving no effective help to the freedom fighters of Bangla Desh for successfully culminating their freedom struggle against the fascist hordes of the West Pak military regime, is wasting no time to further abridge the fundamental democratic rights of the Indian working class and the other toiling people. The working class and the democratically conscious people in the country must be cautious about it.

KISHAN-KHET MAZDOOR SANGHA WINS IN DHALBHUMGARH ELECTION

(By a Staff Reporter)

On the 26th May last, in the election of Dhalbhumgarh Gram Panchayat in the District of Singbhum, Bihar, Com. Durga Das, district member of S. U. C. and President, Kishan-Khet Mazdoor Sangha of Singbhum district was elected as *Mukhia* & Com. Amal Banerjee as *Sar Panch*, & Com. Putu Singh and Com. Bhanulal Rhu as members of Gram Panchayat. After the election results were out, over 5000 people including workers, peasants, teachers, students, intellectuals etc. rallied and went out in procession on the day to celebrate the victory of

the elected candidates. On 11th June last, a big meeting was held under the auspices of the local unit of S. U. C., Kishan-Khet Mazdoor Sangha, D. S. O., D. Y. O., and D. G. K. Mazdoor Union to welcome the elected representatives of Dhalbhumgarh Gram Panchayat. The meeting was presided over by Com. Hiren Sarkar, a leader and member of the Central Committee of the S. U. C. I. It was addressed by Com. Amriteswar Chakravorty, Com. Gopal Misra, Com. Chandra-sekhar Misra, Com. Bholanath Misra, Com. Tapati Ray, Com. Durga Das and others.

S U C Resolutions

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left and democratic parties could be achieved only if the cause that led to the breakdown of the U.F. were removed and the parties accepted correct norms, code of conduct and measures necessary for such unity. It is high time for the left and democratic parties to evolve, accept and adhere to such norms, code of conduct and measures as would help in the creation of proper atmosphere conducive to the restoration of left democratic unity and growth and development of democratic mass movements. The Committee appealed to all left and democratic parties to come forward for the purpose.

In addition to the four resolutions the State Committee also adopted a resolution expressing deep sense of sorrow at the sad demise of the three Soviet cosmonauts, another resolution condemning recent supply of arms to Pakistan by U. S. A. and a third resolution on Bangla Desh demanding among others immediate recognition by the Government of India of Sovereign Democratic Republic of Bangla Desh.

Soviet Stand On Bangla Desh

(Contd. from page 2)

be immediately undertaken by the Pakistan authority.'

From all these it is as clear as daylight that the Soviet Government envisages peaceful political settlement of the Bangla Desh question within the framework of Pakistan without disturbing in any way its integrity. It is for this simple reason that the Soviet leaders have nowhere used the term Bangla Desh. They used East Pakistan signifying thereby that it is a part of Pakistan just as West Pakistan is. For the same reason the Soviet leaders have nowhere mentioned the struggle as a freedom struggle and felt the necessity of helping this struggle morally and materially as also of recognising the Government of Bangla Desh. All their concern is for evacuee problem and this is guided by 'humanitarian principles' as stated by Podgorny. This being the position there is no basic difference between the Soviet stand and the stand of some imperialist countries.

Some Suggestions to end Individual Killings and Murders

(Contd. from Page 1)

3) The "Gestapo tactics" adopted by some parties, in which a particular party commits individual killings and murders camouflaged as another party, must be stopped. This has posed a new danger in the left democratic movement.

4) Every party shall have the right to expand its sphere of influence by conducting ideological struggle and winning over the masses on to its side. But expansion of sphere of influence through violent clashes or physical annihilation of political opponents must not be attempted.

5) Every party must openly declare its condemnation of the politics of individual terrorism and murder, sincerely strive to stop such individual killings and murders and participate in united campaigns and actions with other parties against those elements and forces engaged in individual killings and murders.

6) Hate-campaigns against fraternal political parties must be stopped; philosophical intolerance, blindness and party fanaticism that have greatly embittered the mutual relations between the ranks of different left and democratic political parties, at lower level in particular, must be eschewed and better understanding and friendly relation, in spite of political differences, among them must be attempted to be developed.

7) No party should allow admission of anti-social elements into the party. Ties with anti-social elements must be snapped and every act of individual killings and murders must be condemned.

8) The parties functioning in a given area should prepare an agreed list of anti-socials and unitedly move to reform the anti-social elements failing

which they should take effective measures against them.

9) No party should interfere on behalf of any anti-social element in case the latter is arrested. But if any bonafide worker or supporter of a political party is arrested by mistake the party concerned may move for the release of that particular person.

10) All-Party Committees should be formed at all levels, from the State level to the Anchal or ward level to mobilise public opinion and organise popular resistance against the politics of murder and individual terrorism, anti-social elements and their criminal activities and the police and administrative officials who maintained, still maintain or will maintain link with anti-social elements, powerful business houses and jotedars. The All-Party Committees should prepare lists of such officials at their respective levels.

11) No political party should use the administration and the police for its own sectarian interests against other political party or parties. The All-Party Committees should prepare lists of officials guilty of violation of administrative neutrality and move seriously for their punishment.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT

1) The Government must break the chain of the police with the anti-social elements, powerful business houses and the jotedars, purge the administration and the police of partisan anti people elements and restore administrative neutrality on the basis of reports by the All-Party Committees.

2) The Government should punish officials guilty of maintenance of links with anti-social elements, powerful business houses and jotedars, partisan behaviour towards any particular party or parties

as also of instituting false cases against innocent persons.

3) To help mobilisation of public opinion and organisation of popular resistance against the politics of murder and individual terrorism, anti-social elements and their criminal activities, the Government should withdraw all false cases and warrants of arrests against political, trade union, peasant, student and youth workers and people for participating in democratic movements and release all political workers detained without trial or arrested in connection with democratic movements.

4) The Government must make vigorous drive for arresting all anti-social elements on the basis of reports submitted by the All-Party Committees.

5) The Government should repeal the Arms Act, bring small and conventional arms within the purchasing power of the people and give opportunities to the latter to arm themselves to resist the armed hooligans. Unarmed people are not in a position to resist the armed criminals who have armed themselves by all means. Hence, one should not object to the people being armed if effective popular resistance against the politics of murder and murderous criminal activities of the hooligans is to be organised. The Government must seize all arms possessed by the anti-social elements.

6) The Government must disband all the rural guards or resistance groups formed by it popularly known as R. G. Parties, as such groups are by and large composed of anti-social elements, jotedars, agents of business houses and other anti-people forces, all serving vested interests and reaction in connivance with the local police. Every political party should be allowed to organise popular resistance groups.

FOR THE PEOPLE :

1) Social indifference and the mentality to save one's own skin on the part of the people have emboldened the hooligans. For unarmed people in the face of armed criminals this mentality may be natural. But this has got to be overcome and the people have got to resist the politics of individual terrorism and murder by all means.

2) Philosophical intolerance, blindness, party fanaticism have vitiated the atmosphere and led to the politics of individual terrorism and murder. The people must get over them.

3) The people must seize every opportunity to organise and arm themselves in order that they can effectively resist those engaged in individual terrorism and murder. It should be realised that social indifference, mentality to save one's own skin, philosophical intolerance, blindness and fanaticism are some of the factors that bring about fascism in a country.

These are some of the suggestions the adoption of which, in our considered view, will end the politics of murder and individual killings and restore normalcy. Surely, we do not consider our suggestions exhaustive; there may be other measures which other parties may suggest. But our suggestions certainly can serve as a basis for discussion. We request you to please give thought over the suggestions and give your opinion thereon. You will recall that we had several bilateral discussions with you in this regard. More discussions may be necessary. We are ready for any such discussion.

Yours truly

NIHAR MUKHERJEE
Secretary,

West Bengal State Committee,
S. U. C. I.

PRESS CLIPPING

Mr. G. D. Deshingkar in an article entitled "The Chinese Riddle" published in the Statesman dated 11th July last discussed China's attitude towards India. We hereinbelow publish some portions from it.

"A carefully worded definition of China's posture towards the subcontinent at the present time is given in Premier Chou En-lai's letter to President Yahya Khan. The letter was released by Pakistan, presumably without consulting the Chinese side, for it has still not been published in China. In his letter Premier Chou describes the "happenings" in East Bengal as "purely an internal affair of Pakistan" to be settled by the Pakistani people" without "foreign interference." The unity of Pakistan he feels is "the basic guarantee of strength and prosperity" for the Pakistani people: significant adjectives like "sacred" and "unbreakable" have not been used. China recognizes that there are "problems" in East Bengal and wants Yahya Khan to "differentiate between the broad masses and a handful of saboteurs." Finally, Premier Chou assures Pakistan that in the event of Indian "aggression", China will, "as always" (meaning no more than before) "firmly support" Pakistan in its "struggle to safeguard State sovereignty and national independence." No military aid commitments have, however been made, nor has China assured support to uphold Pakistan's "territorial integrity" which is what would primarily suffer if there is an Indo-Pakistan war.

Briefly then, China's response to the present tense situation in the subcontinent is quantitatively, qualitatively, attitudinally and in terms of the language used, very different from her behaviour during a similar crisis period in the past. In 1965, China verbally attacked India on a broad front, identified Pakistan's cause as her own and more importantly, manufactured a

Sino-Indian border incident as an excuse for possible military action. All these elements are missing from China's words and action at the present time. Chinese hostility is no longer quite as acute and harsh and it is focussed on the very narrow area of "Indian interference." This shows that critical references to India are intended more for Pakistani ears than as a revival of all-out hostility towards India.

Before March 25, small straws in the Chinese wind indicated that Chinese hostility towards India had diminished considerably. Indeed, since the beginning of this year, Chinese foreign policy has been wearing a "new look". Delegations from "U.S. lackeys" such as Malaysia and the Philippines have been invited to China. State relations with the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Burma have been restored to the ambassadorial level. Diplomatic relations have been established with a large number of countries. Even U. S. journalists and doctors have been admitted to China and have been entertained by Premier Chou En-lai. This relaxation is obviously intended to create a favourable atmosphere which would facilitate China's entry into the United Nations. In the circumstances, the revolt in East Bengal created a most awkward situation for China.

Obviously, she could not abandon the friendship of Pakistan which she had nurtured at great expense for 10 years. Support to Bangladesh would have been a worthwhile option, if the movement had been near victory and if such support would have earned India's friendship. In the event, neither seemed possible. The Pakistani Army re-established control in East Bengal very

Birth Anniversary of Jyoti Prasad and Nazrul

(By a Staff Reporter)

On 1st and 2nd July last, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Jyoti Prasad and Nazrul Islam, the two immortal giants of the literary world of Indian renaissance, two functions were held at Gauhati and Shillong where Com. Manik Mukherjee, the editor of Pathikrit, was present as the main speaker. Com. Manik Mukherjee while paying

swiftly. The Chinese probably also concluded that their support to Bangladesh would be received in India with great alarm and suspicion. Thus, if China had supported Bangladesh, she would have gained an enemy in Pakistan, aroused fear and alarm in India and still would not have succeeded in ensuring victory for Bangladesh. She, therefore, manufactured two straw-men—totally unrelated to the unpleasant reality—an "aggressive" India and its "victim" Pakistan. She then promptly offered carefully measured assurances of support to the latter.

In 1965, China's acute, all-out hostility towards India expressed at all levels of the Government and the Press, appeared to pose a real threat of military action by China. At that time, she did not appear to be concerned with international opinion nor was she keen of being admitted to the U.N. And yet, this hostility remained primarily at the verbal level as Mrs. Sinha has put it; "China's actual actions after September 6 were not equal to the threat it had posed". Today, Chinese hostility towards India is being expressed in deliberately circumscribed areas and in carefully measured tones. Today, she is openly seeking friends and is on the brink of getting into the United Nations. The Chinese leaders have, so far, shown great skill in the management of their foreign relations. Against this background it does not stand to reason that they will abandon all caution and exceed the limits which they observed during the India-Pakistan conflict of 1965"

rich tribute to Jyoti Prasad and Nazrul Islam for their great contribution towards fulfilment of a revolutionary objective of their life also stressed that an institution should be established for translating the various works of Jyoti Prasad to different Indian languages.

Dr. Deba Prasad Barua, and Mr. Jiten Das presided over the functions in Gauhati and Shillong respectively. Among others who spoke in the functions were Dr. Hiren Gohain, Debikarani Das, Prof. Mukunda Sharma and Dharmeswar Das.

D.S.O. Calls for Stopping Malpractices in Examination

(By a Staff Reporter)

Under the auspices of All India Democratic Student's Organisation, West Bengal State Committee, a Student's Convention was held on 9th July last at Muslim Institute Hall, Calcutta to find out ways to stop malpractices in examination and demanding reforms in educational system. The convention was presided over by Com. Chaya Mukherjee and was addressed by Provash Ghosh, as the main speaker. The convention was largely attended by student delegates from various schools and colleges of Calcutta and its suburbs. The resolution suggests some concrete measures, some of which are as follows: (i) An impartial enquiry commission should immediately be set up to look into the corrupt practices of officers, employees and other persons connected with the conduction of examination and also into frequent leakage of question papers. The guilty officers and men should be given severe punishment for their offence. (ii) Admit card with photos should be introduced. (iii) Other than the examinees, invigilators and persons connected with the examination, no one else should be allowed to enter the examination hall (iv) a commission consisting of teachers, students and the educationists should be formed to suggest measures for reform of educational system and present methods of examination. The convention lastly appeals to the students to fight out this scourge in the educational life of the society.